

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 VIENTI 07225 191358Z

71

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-14 OMB-01 AID-20

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19

DPW-01 DRC-01 /183 W

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R 191218Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6303

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

S E C R E T VIENTIANE 7225

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, LA

SUBJECT: FUTURE ROLE OF ICC IN LAOS

REF: VIENTIANE 6994

1. ICC/LAOS CANDEL SIMARD CALLED ON EMBOFF TODAY
FOR EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON INFLUX OF LPF PERSONNEL AND
ICC MATTERS.

2. SIMARD SAID THAT LPF PERMREP SOTH PHETRASY HAD
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 VIENTI 07225 191358Z

REQUESTED HIM TO BE PRESENT AT AIRPORT DURING EACH

ARRIVAL OF LPF PERSONNEL BUT SIMARD HAD REFUSED, CITING GOC'S POSITION THAT ITS REPRESENTATIVE SHOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY ASPECT OF IMPLEMENTATION OF LAO PROTOCOL UNTIL CONDITIONS SPECIFIED REFTEL, PARA 3 (A) WERE MET.

3. SIMARD CONFIRMED THAT, AT TIME OF SQUIRES' VISIT, CANADIANS AND INDIANS SEEMED TO HAVE AGREED ON STEPS NECESSARY FOR REACTIVATION OF ICC. HE SAID THAT DHAMIJA HAD IN FACT RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM NEW DELHI TO ENDORSE CANADIAN POSITION SINCE NEW DELHI WAS ALSO CONCERNED THAT LAO PARTIES MIGHT HAVE STRIKINGLY DIFFERENT INTERPRETATION OF KEY PORTION OF PROTOCOL RELATED TO ICC. SINCE THAT TIME, HOWEVER, DHAMIJA HAS REVERTED TO HIS PREVIOUS VIEWPOINT THAT ICC SHOULD FORGE AHEAD TOWARD REACTIVATION WHETHER ASKED TO DO SO BY BOTH PARTIES OR NOT. SIMARD SAID DHAMIJA HAD CRITICIZED HIM PUBLICLY FOR SPENDING PAST FOUR DAYS IN PAKSE AT INVITATION OF PRINCE BOUN OUM NA CHAMPASSAK RATHER THAN REMAINING IN VIENTIANE WHERE "THERE WAS SO MUCH TO BE DONE."

4. SIMARD HAS LEARNED FROM WHAT HE CONSIDERS A RELIABLE SOURCE THAT INDIAN EMBASSY COUNSELOR IN BELGRADE HAS BEEN SELECTED TO REPLACE DHAMIJA AND LATTER IS SLATED TO DEPART FROM LAOS IN LATE NOVEMBER. SIMARD BELIEVES DHAMIJA'S HASTE TO REACTIVATE ICC STEMS FROM HIS DESIRE TO SECURE AN EXTENSION OF HIS PRESENT ASSIGNMENT FROM GOI SINCE DHAMIJA HOPES TO CAP HIS LONG CAREER WITH RESTORATION IN LAOS OF INDIAN PRESTIGE IN PEACE-KEEPING FIELD LOST WHEN INDIANS WERE EJECTED FROM ICCS/VIETNAM. AS FAR AS SIMARD CAN SEE, GOC IS STANDING FIRM ON ITS PRINCIPLES AND ENDORSED HIS DECISION NOT TO GO TO AIRPORT TO OBSERVE ARRIVAL OF LPF PERSONNEL.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE INFORMATION FROM EMBASSIES BELGRADE AND DELHI ON DHAMIJA'S REPORTED SUCCESSOR. WHITEHOUSE

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Executive Order: GS WHITEHOUSE
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